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CONTENTS

USSR National Affairs

Vol III No 082 *29 Apr 86*

POLITICAL & SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Accident Occurs at Chernobyl Nuclear Reactor ..... R 1
Initial TASS Report ..... R 1
'Vremya' Coverage ..... R 1
First Accident in Soviet Union ..... R 1
Moscow World Service Report ..... R 1
AFP Report ..... R 1
Life 'Normal' in Kiev *[AFP]* ..... R 2
Reactor Plant Produced Plutonium *[AFP]* ..... R 2
Gromyko Presents 'High State Awards' to Workers ..... R 2
Woman Sentenced for Fraud Reportedly Executed *[AFP]* ..... R 2
Prosecutor's Office Discusses Bank Frauds *[TRUD 17 Apr]* ..... R 3
Lenin's Teachings Regarded as Key to Social Progress *[PRAVDA 22 Apr]* ..... R 3
AUCCTU Resolution Details Postcongress Tasks *[TRUD 8 Apr]* ..... R 4
Soviet Leaders Attend Meetings, Tour Country ..... R 4
Yeltsin at Moscow Gorispolkom *[MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA 16 Apr]* ..... R 4
Dolgikh Visits Port, Komi ASSR ..... R 5
Zimyanin Addresses Collegium *[PRAVDA 18 Apr]* ..... R 5
Azerbaijan Council of Ministers Debates Duties ..... R 5
Azerbaijan Komsomol Central Committee Holds Plenum ..... R 5
Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium Holds Meeting ..... R 6
Uzbek Trade Unions Council Focuses on Health Issues ..... R 6
Turkmen Supreme Soviet Discusses People's Soviets ..... R 7
Tajik Komsomol First Secretary Transferred, Replaced ..... R 7

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Preparations Under Way for Economic Reorganization ..... S 1
'System of Relations' Changed ..... S 1
Economist Views Need To Restructure Management ..... S 1
[Belousov in SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA 24 Apr]
Railway Workers Adopt New Work, Salary System ..... S 3
Briefs: Tyumen Oil Deposit Opened ..... S 3
Machine Tools Computer
Pierre Cardin Fashions

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Spring Sowing Progress Throughout Nation Reviewed *[Pavlov in IZVESTIYA 24 Apr]* ..... T 1
Progress in Current Agricultural Work Evaluated *[PRAVDA 15 Apr]* ..... T 1
Field Preparation in Non-Chernozem Zone Reported *[Yakovlev in PRAVDA 24 Apr]* ..... T 2
Sowing Campaign Under Way; Good Conditions Reported ..... T 3

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

'Progress-26' Docks With 'Mir'-'Soyuz T-15' ..... U 1
Crew Unloading 'Progress-26' ..... U 1
Technical Problems Discussed ..... U 1
Progress of 'Astron,' 'Vega' Projects Updated ..... U 1

Accident Occurs at Chernobyl Nuclear Reactor

Initial TASS Report

LD281720 Moscow TASS in English 1717 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 28 TASS — An accident has occurred at the Chernobyl atomic power plant as one of the atomic reactors was damaged.

Measures are being undertaken to eliminate the consequences of the accident. Aid is being given to those affected.

A government commission has been set up.

'Vremya' Coverage

LD281744 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 28 Apr 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] From the USSR Council of Ministers:

An accident has taken place at the Chernobyl AES. One of the atomic reactors has been damaged. Measures are being taken to eliminate the consequences of the accident. Help is being given to the victims. A government commission has been set up.

First Accident in Soviet Union

LD281758 Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 28 TASS — The accident at the Chernobyl atomic power station is the first one in the Soviet Union. Similar accidents happened on several occasions in other countries.

In the United States, 2,300 accidents, breakdowns and other faults were registered in 1979 alone, according to the public organization called Critical Mass.

The major causes of the dangerous situation are the poor quality of reactors and other types of equipment, unsatisfactory control over the technical conditions of the equipment, non-observance of safety regulations and insufficient professional training of personnel.

The atomic power station North Anna-1, Virgina near Washington D.C., is topping the list of accident-prone stations.

A major accident occurred in 1979 at the atomic power station in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where radioactive substances leaked due to a reactor breakdown.

As a result, radioactivity raised to a level dangerous to human health. In order to avoid casualties, the local authorities were compelled to evacuate thousands of residents from the area around the station and nearby regions.

A year later, eight people were doused with radioactive water as a hose became torn during maintenance work at the atomic power plant in Zion, Illinois. Overall, 40,000 litres of contaminated water poured into the atomic plant building.

Similar accidents also were registered at the atomic power station near New York City, at the atomic power plant in Aiken, South Carolina, and some others.

Moscow World Service Report

LD291127 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] A government commission has been set up to investigate what caused the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station in the Ukraine where a reactor was damaged and efforts are being made to eliminate the consequences of the accident and help the victims. The disaster was the first one at Soviet nuclear power plants in more than 30 years. The use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes is the vital necessity for humanity because of the gradual exhaustion of conventional fuels. Drastic measures are being carried out to guarantee the power reactor's reliability and safety. Nevertheless, our observer notes, as this accident and many others at nuclear power facilities at Western countries show that the application of nuclear power even for peaceful purposes can be dangerous — all the more obvious what a horrible threat nuclear weapons and their testing pose to the nations.

AFP Report

AU281746 Paris AFP in English 1744 GMT 28 Apr 86

(Text) Moscow, April 28 (AFP) — An accident has occurred in a Soviet nuclear power station damaging a reactor, Soviet news agency TASS reported Monday, quoting official sources and referring to casualties. The accident happened at a station in Chernobyl in the Kiev area of the Ukraine, TASS said, without specifying when it took place.

Measures were being taken to deal with "the consequences of the accident" TASS said, adding "the victims are being assisted". The agency did not say whether the casualties were dead or injured. A government committee of inquiry had been set up.

Meanwhile Swedish Defence Ministry said an abnormally high rate of radioactivity had been recorded on Monday afternoon by several monitoring stations in Finland, Sweden, Denmark, and Norway. The ministry said that the rate would not be a danger to human beings although regional specialists said that the rate was ten times higher in Finland than in Sweden and Norway.

Swedish Energy Minister Birigitta Dahl said the radioactivity registered in Sweden could have been carried by "winds from the Black Sea, from a region of the Soviet Union or from another country". Any question of a nuclear test or missile test accident had been ruled out, the Swedish military observatory at Hagfors reported.

Information about accidents and disasters of any sort are rarely announced in the Soviet Union immediately after they have happened.

The first stage of the Chernobyl nuclear plant was put into service in September, 1977 and two further stages in 1980. Its total power capacity is of three million kilowatts.

An abnormal rate of radioactivity was found on the clothes of nuclear power station employees at a nuclear power plant at Forsmark north of Stockholm leading to the evacuation of 600 employees. The radioactivity rate, at a few millirems an hour, was however not thought high enough to warrant the evacuation of the population. Experts in Stockholm had at first thought that the abnormal rate in the air in several parts of Sweden came from this power station.

Sweden decided, after a referendum, to dismantle its nuclear power stations between now and the year 2010.

In Denmark, the Risoe nuclear research laboratory west of Copenhagen registered a low level of radioactive fallout Monday afternoon. Experts said the level of radioactivity — five times more than normal — was comparable to that reported in Sweden and Finland but at no time was dangerous. The laboratory spokesman added that the level suggested however that the Soviet reactor had melted.

Life 'Normal' in Kiev

AU290723 Paris AFP in English 0717 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, April 29 (AFP) — A Soviet journalist contacted by telephone in Kiev said everything was "normal" in the city, 150 kms (95 miles) south of the nuclear plant at Chernobyl, the scene of a major accident on Saturday.

The journalist on the local Communist Party daily *PRAVDA UKRAINIA* told Agence France-Presse that "everything is normal here". He refused to make any comment on the catstrophe, saying "I can't tell you anything, information is given out in Moscow."

Telephone lines with Kiev were particularly busy on Tuesday morning and it took several hours to get a line. It was not possible to obtain the slightest indication as to possible emergency or security measures being taken or advice which might have been given to the local population.

Air links between Moscow and Kiev, the third biggest city in the country, appeared to be normal, according to information received from the airport here.

Reactor Plant Produced Plutonium

AU290804 Paris AFP in English 0758 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Berlin, April 29 (AFP) — The Soviet nuclear plant which had a major accident at the weekend was chiefly producing plutonium for military purposes, a West German physicist said in an interview on a West Berlin radio.

According to Jens Scheer, professor of nuclear physics at Bremen University, the production of electricity was "only secondary". He added that the plant at Chernobyl in the Ukraine was of a type regarded as not very reliable and "experts have been fearing an accident for a long time".

Gromyko Presents 'High State Awards' to Workers

LD281537 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, gave high state awards to a group of comrades in the Kremlin today.

(Ganchev), fitters' team leader, employed by the Nikopolstroy Trust of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Construction of Heavy Industry Enterprises, and (Chervikov), chairman of the Put Lenina Collective Farm, Kotelnich Rayon, Kirov Oblast, received Orders of Lenin and Second Gold Serp i Molot Medals.

Orders of Lenin have been given to Ilichev, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; Lomakin, the USSR ambassador to Czechoslovakia; and Terebilov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Court.

Other state awards were also given.

Comrade Gromyko greeted the recipients on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo and on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government. He conveyed to them greetings and best wishes from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and greeted everyone on the occasion of the coming holiday, May Day, the day of international solidarity of the working people.

Woman Sentenced for Fraud Reportedly Executed

AU241558 Paris AFP in English 1551 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, April 24 (AFP) — A woman sentenced to death for fraud two years ago in the southern city of Gelendzhik on the Black Sea coast has been executed, the weekly *LITERATURNAYA ROSSIYA* reported this week. Berta Borodkina, a 59-year-old widow nicknamed "Iron Bella" had been arrested, expelled from the Communist Party and tried for embezzling funds from her catering firm and for distributing kickbacks.

Analysts noted that executions are rarely made public in the Soviet Union and there had been no previous cases of a woman being put to death in this country for many years. Western sources estimated the number of executions in the Soviet Union at 100 a year.

From [date indistinct], the Soviet press had already highlighted a major corruption scandal in Rostov, Soviet Russia, that led to two executions and stiff jail sentences on several officials. The publicity given to the case had been seen as a sign of Soviet Mikhail [as received] Gorbachev's determination to combat corruption and speculation.

Prosecutor's Office Discusses Bank Frauds

PM221336 Moscow TRUD in Russian 17 Apr 86 p 2

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR Prosecutor's Office"]

[Text] The USSR Prosecutor's Office and its organs at the local level have checked on how legislation on safeguarding socialist property is being observed in the State Workers' Savings Bank system.

It was established that the USSR State Workers' Saving Bank Board and republic and oblast boards are still not fully ensuring the fulfillment of party and government requirements on stepping up the struggle against embezzlement and other abuses committed for personal gain.

Establishments of the State Workers' Savings Bank are guilty of serious shortcomings in the selection of cadres, including those for leadership posts, and instances of people being hired for jobs involving material responsibility who have a previous criminal record or proteges who subsequently become organizers and participants in various crimes are not isolated occurrences. The monitoring and auditing service is failing to prevent embezzlement and abuse or to detect them in time. In the Pochapintsy village savings bank, Ternopol Oblast, former inspectors Platosh and and Senkiv misappropriated deposits worth more than R150,000 over a period of 12 years. During that time higher organizations there carried out 43 audits of documents, 18 spot checks, and 17 checks on the acceptance and transmission of valuables, but not a single organization discovered any violations.

Instances where leaders and also workers in the monitoring and auditing services have connived with law-breakers or even become direct accomplices in crime are not infrequent. Adazhiy, inspector in the Dolynyany village savings bank, Chernovitsy Oblast, misappropriated money when receiving deposits over several years. Her accomplices were the chief of the central savings bank, accountants, and auditors, whom she bribed to hush up the crime. All have been sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

The accounts monitoring service was not efficient enough. The methods it adopted were ineffective and do not meet modern requirements.

The low standard of accounts monitoring is shown, for example, by the fact that out of 33 cases of embezzlement of money detected in the Uzbek SSR in 1984-85, only 3 were detected by subsequent monitoring of accounts. In the Ukraine SSR during the last 5 years, less than one-fifth of all embezzlements detected in savings banks were revealed by monitoring of accounts.

The role and responsibility of the actual accountancy apparatus for safeguarding socialist property has been undermined. The chief accountants of republic and oblast savings banks to all intents and purposes failed to keep accounts, carry out analyses and monitoring, or elaborate measures to prevent the embezzlement of state resources.

Law-enforcement organs, upon detecting cases of embezzlement in savings banks, regularly inform the leaders of oblast and republic boards about the causes and conditions favoring the perpetration of crimes, but effective measures to remove them have not been taken.

The USSR Gosbank Board, together with the USSR People's Control Committee and the USSR Finance Ministry, examined on the basis of material provided by the USSR Prosecutor's Office the question of safeguarding socialist property within the State Workers' Savings Bank system. The USSR State Workers' Savings Bank Board was seriously criticized for negligence in its work. Specific measures designed to step up the struggle against embezzlement and abuse and obtain redress for damage caused to the state were outlined. The implementation of these measures was monitored. Officials guilty of shortcomings in cadre selection and placement and in the organization of accounting and the monitoring of subordinates' activity were strictly disciplined.

Lenin's Teachings Regarded as Key to Social Progress

PM251220 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Apr 86 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "The Unfading Light of Great Ideas"]

[Text] Today the peoples of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries and all progressive mankind are ceremonially marking the 116th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin — a great man, thinker, and revolutionary.

The magnitude of Lenin's impact on the destinies of the world stands out more vividly now than ever before. His name has become one with the present and the future of civilization, marking the actual beginning of its communist era. The teaching and work of the founder of the Bolshevik party and of the first socialist state is rightly recognized as a major contribution to the treasure house of universal human knowledge and experience.

"The talented continuer of the work of Marx and Engels, Vladimir Ilich Lenin comprehensively developed their teaching in new historical conditions, provided the answer to the fundamental questions of the present time, equipped the workers movement with the theory of socialist revolution and socialist building, and with a scientific system of views on problems of war and peace," the CPSU Program notes.

Time has no power over Leninism. Its invincible strength lies in its ability to correctly reflect objective socioeconomic laws and to absorb everything new that leads to social progress. To adhere to Leninism means to engage in a tireless creative quest, to be able at every new historical stage to rise above customary but now obsolete notions, and to combine a bold orientation toward the future with strict realism.

This is the broad Leninist view that our party has taken of the current crucial stage in the life of the Soviet society and the present-day world as a whole, having put forward the concept of the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development at the April (1985) plenum. This concept was approved and further elaborated at the 27th CPSU Congress which is rightly described as the congress of strategic decisions. It approved the new edition of the CPSU Program, provided the answers to fundamental

questions raised by life itself, and theoretically substantiated the ways of our further progress.

Transforming the energy of ideas into the energy of action — this is what is most essential, most important now. The year has started quite well in the national economy as a whole. There have been noticeable changes for the better in key industrial sectors. The volume of industrial output increased by 6.7 percent in comparison with the first quarter of last year. Labor productivity rose by 6.3 percent. In the countryside, purchases of livestock and poultry increased by 7.6 percent in comparison with last year, and of milk and eggs by 6.0 percent. The inspired, creative labor of millions during the Leninist subbotnik was a vivid manifestation of patriotism and concern for the common good. However, the Communists are not given to deluding themselves with their successes. In V.I. Lenin's words, it is necessary to advance energetically and singlemindedly to scale new heights. It is a vital necessity and the patriotic duty of every Soviet worker, and party members first and foremost, not to flag in their efforts, to fulfill the targets at their work places conscientiously, to a high standard, and with a complete understanding of their responsibility for the common cause. Only if this condition is fulfilled will we be able to achieve the very high targets set for this year and the 12th 5-Year Plan as a whole.

Following Leninist tradition, the party regards the galvanization of the human factor as a natural result of the improvement of all aspects of human activity. Concern for people's specific needs and interests and their spiritual and moral edification must be constantly in the field of vision of party, soviet, and economic organizations, trade unions, and the Komsomol. Heightened attention to social questions, science, and culture — this, according to Lenin, is the best policy and most efficient management.

Lenin regarded democratism and the living creativeness of the working people as the main strength of the development of the new system. The development of the socialist self-management of the people is assuming an even greater significance now when we are tackling most complex tasks in the sphere of production, culture, and management. And here every real step toward broader publicity, intensification of control from below, and deepening of the democratic principles in the work of state and public organizations and the development of constructive criticism and self-criticism is valuable. To utilize the democratic nature of socialism to the maximum effect relying on the initiative and creativeness of the masses remains the invariable condition of the acceleration of society's development.

The party's experience confirms with utmost clarity that little can be changed in any sphere of our life if we do not change our way of thinking, our psychological approach, if we do not revise our labor organization and the style and methods of work. And here too it is necessary to clearly see and distinguish between those who have truly begun to reorganize themselves and those who only pay lip service to the new trends while changing nothing in practice. This kind of "innovation" was described by V.I. Lenin as useless fuss, as creating a semblance of work, but which in effect poisons our institutions and our minds. The paramount duty of party organizations is strengthening the spirit of professional competence and efficiency and of a truly proprietary attitude to work everywhere and erecting a barrier against any manifestations of backwardness, sluggishness, and complacency.

The entire international activity of the CPSU and the Soviet state is imbued with fidelity to Lenin's ideas. Gradually, the Leninist principles of proletarian, socialist internationalism and of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems are being translated into practice. Today, when the threat of nuclear annihilation hangs over mankind as a result of the aggressive, adventurist imperialist policy, the need to establish a comprehensive system of international security as outlined by the 27th CPSU Congress is becoming ever more imperative. At the same time, the Soviet Union's peaceable intentions and appeals are not a sign of weakness. We will not be caught unawares, we will be able to respond to any challenge. We remember well Lenin's behest that while engaging in peaceful building we must protect the defense capability of the Soviet state, be constantly on the alert.

Destiny has assigned the Soviet people the happy task of initiating a great new cause — building a society of the working people for the working people, paving the way toward communism. Along this path we draw strength from the clear fountainhead of Leninism. Rejoicing in our successes, persistently eliminating shortcomings, realistically assessing our achievements, and thinking about the future we turn to Lenin and consult him again and again. He had, has, and will continue to have a share in all our achievements. He was, is, and will continue to be our attentive and wise mentor.

AUCCTU Resolution Details Postcongress Tasks

PM141154 [Editorial Report] Moscow *TRUD* in Russian on 8 April publishes on pages 1-2 the 4,800-word 10th AUCCTU Plenum resolution "On Trade Union's Tasks Stemming From the 27th CFSU Congress Decisions." The resolution is divided into five sections, dealing with the Soviet trade unions' tasks in the economic, social, ideological educational, organizational, and international spheres. It says in conclusion: "The plenum assures the CPSU Central Committee and its Politburo that the trade unions will mount active organizational work to implement the 27th CPSU Congress decisions and will struggle still more energetically to implement the party's strategic policy of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and for new successes in communist building."

Soviet Leaders Attend Meetings, Tour Country

Yeltsin at Moscow Gorispolkom

PM281117 [Editorial Report] Moscow *MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA* in Russian 16 April publishes on page 1 a 600-word unattributed report under the headline "At the Moscow Gorispolkom" which states that "at a routine session the Moscow Gorispolkom has examined the comprehensive targeted 'Health' program for Moscow for 1986-90 aimed at improving the population's health." The report concludes:

"B.N. Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, took part in the Moscow Gorispolkom session."

Dolgikh Visits Port, Komi ASSR

LD262153 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 Apr 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Vladimir Ivanovich Dolgikh visited Archangelsk Oblast and Komi ASSR 23-26 April. He visited Archangel maritime port and the Kraznaya Kuznitsa ship repair works and also met with geologists. In conversations with managers, specialists, and workers, attention was drawn to the need to more energetically introduce new equipment and progressive technology as well as the intensification of production and for an increase in the effectiveness of prospecting work for oil, gas, and other mineral resources.

In Komi ASSR, Comrade Dolgikh acquainted himself with the work of several enterprises and associations of Komineft and visited the Vorkuta miners. Conversations there took note of the importance of strengthening the raw materials base, and a great deal of attention was paid to the social development of labor collectives.

In Syktyvkar he visited the Institute of Geology of the Komi branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Meetings with party aktivs were held at the Archangel and Komi CPSU Obkoms.

Zimyanin Addresses Collegium

PM241353 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 86 First Edition p 2

[TASS report under general headline: "Collegium Session"]

[Text] An enlarged session of the USSR Education Ministry Collegium was held 16 April to discuss the tasks of the country's public education organs in the light of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions. Union republic education ministers and leaders of the USSR Academy of Pedagogic Sciences and of public education organs participated in the discussion of the report delivered by USSR Education Minister S.G. Shcherbakov.

The collegium outlined specific measures to propagandize, explain, and study the 27th CPSU Congress documents and materials at establishments in the education system, as well as measures to accelerate the pace of implementing the reform of secondary general educational schooling in the light of the demands of the party congress.

The collegium session was addressed by M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Azerbaijan Council of Ministers Debates Duties

GF271631 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0105 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] The Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers convened on 24 April. The meeting discussed the duties of the ministries, chief administrations, establishments, organizations, and the local people's deputies soviet executive committees related to the realization of the decisions adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress, the recommendations and assertions contained in the Political Report read at the 27th CPSU Congress, and the decisions adopted by the 31st Azerbaijan Communist Party Congress. It also discussed the realization of the state plan for economic and social development during the first quarter of 1986 and the fulfillment of the republic's budget during the same period. Gasan Seidov, member of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau and chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers, read a report.

The meeting noted that by broadening socialist competition the workers of Azerbaijan SSR have successfully fulfilled the plan for the first quarter of the year. As such, they have contributed to a more dynamic development in the republic's economic and cultural fields. The plan for the sale of industrial products has been fulfilled by 101.4 percent. Compared with the same period in 1985, the increase in industrial production has been 5 percent instead of the 4 percent stipulated by the annual plan.

The rural workers are carrying out the work related to [word indistinct] in an organized way. The overwintering of livestock progressed successfully. Construction workers performed good work. The volume of goods transported via all kinds of transportation means, the transfer of retail merchandise, and the livelihood services increased significantly. Nevertheless, there have been serious shortcomings and deficiencies in the realization of individual plans and tasks.

The Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers assigned the ministries, the chief administrations, the Nakhichevan ASSR Council of Ministers, and the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblispolkom, and the leaders of the city and rayon soviet executive committees, unions, establishments, and organizations the task of taking effective measures for removing shortcomings.

Kyamran Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the meeting. Svetlana Kasumova, Musa Mamedov, and Artur Rasi-Zade, members of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau, participated in the work of the meeting.

Azerbaijan Komsomol Central Committee Holds Plenum

GF271710 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0105 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Text] The plenum held by the Azerbaijan SSR Komsomol Central Committee on 26 April discussed the tasks of the republic's Komsomol related to the question of realizing the decisions adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress. Comrade Alekperov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan SSR Komsomol Central Committee, read a report.

The report and the addresses made during the plenum noted that the youths in Azerbaijan are determined to actively participate in the effort made to realize the great plans concerning the question of communist construction and channel all their strength, skill, and courage toward the realization of the party's strategic line — that being the stimulation of the country's ksocial and economic development. (?Austravuskov), a responsible functionary of the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee, addressed the plenum. He also presented the Challange Red Banner of the All-Union Komsomol Central Committee to the Azerbaijan SSR Komsomol for permanent keeping. The republic's Komsomol organization has been worthy of the banner for its success in the realization of the 26th CPSU Congress and in the communist training of youths.

Comrades Vasiliy Konovalov, second secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, and Mamedov, chief of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, participated in the work of the plenum.

Uzbek Supreme Soviet Presidium Holds Meeting

GF271545 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 1600 GMT 24 Apr 86

[Text] In its regular meeting the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium heard reports by Deputy Marshalov [words indistinct] and Deputy Khabibullayev on the way they are fulfilling their duties as deputies. It was noted that Deputies Marshalov and Khabibullayev were actively participating in the work carried out to realize the party program and recommendations for intensifying economic development and that they are carrying out significant work for activating resources with a view to improving production results. As such, they are appearing on the scene as initiators of the socialist competition for a high work output and for the successful realization of their plans and obligations. With a view to realizing their duties as deputies, they have been holding regular talks with the members of the electorate and accounting on the activity of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet and on the work they have been performing. They have also been focusing significant attention on resolving social problems.

Regardless of this, the presidium noted that [word indistinct] and (?bureaucracy) have been observed in the discussion made on the appeals of the deputies by the soviet executive committees, ministries and administrations, and economic organs — including the Tashkent city [name indistinct] Rayispolkom, and the administration for dwellings and communal economy and the Tashkent railway sector which are both affiliated to the main administration for construction in Tashkent.

In its decision on the matter, the Presidium approved the reports presented by Deputies Marshalov and Khabibullayev. It called on the republic's ministries, administrations, state committees, and the soviet executive committees to reply to the appeals and proposals made by the deputies on time and to give them practical aid in their effort to discharge state tasks. In light of the decisions adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress, the meeting established concrete measures for the implementation of the law governing the status of the deputies and for the creation of all the possibilities required for enabling the deputies to use their authority.

The Presidium heard a report by the Chirchik city soviet executive committee on the work being carried out by the city soviet aimed at mobilizing plans for stimulating social and economic development. It also heard a report by the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Permanent Industry Commission. It noted that the city soviet was moving to upgrade social work output and resolve problems related to improving the welfare of the people. However, the situation of work carried out by the city soviet in the economic and cultural construction fields is not satisfactory.

The Presidium assigned the Chirchik city soviet and the soviet executive committee the task of heeding the decisions adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress and taking the required measures for improving guidance to the economic and cultural construction fields, creating conditions for initiative in each and every collective, and demonstrating a determined and principled stand on the question of resolving important social problems in life.

The serious deficiencies in the work carried out by the republic's local soviets aimed at realizing the laws related to the struggle against drunkenness and alcoholism were also discussed. The Kara-Kalpak ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the oblast soviet executive committees, and the Tashkent City Soviet Executive Committee were assigned the task of quickly learning the situation of the work carried out to remove drunkenness and alcoholism and putting into effect measures designed for substantially improving this work. Various instructions were given to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of [word indistinct], and the Ministry of Trade, as well as to the Board of the Union of Consumers' Societies and other organizations.

The Presidium also discussed other matters concerning the republic and adopted various relevant decisions.

Uzbek Trade Unions Council Focuses on Health Issues

GF271738 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 0115 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] The meeting the Uzbek SSR Council of Trade Unions Presidium held on 25 April discussed the work carried out by the Bukhara Oblast Council of Trade Unions for realizing the decisions adopted by the CPSU Central Committee on measures concerning the removal of drunkenness and alcholism and improving the use of clubs and sports installations. The meeting noted that the oblast's Council of Trade Unions and the trade union committees were carrying out certain measures in the organizational and training fields for removing drunkenness and alcoholism, forming a state of healthiness, and consolidating the activity of cultural and educational establishments and sports installations.

It was noted, however, that there are many shortcomings in this work. Measures for limiting drunkenness and (?alcoholism) have not been included in the contracts of collectives of a number of factories in the oblast. The organization of the spare time of the workers does not comply with contemporary demands. The oblast's Council of Trade Unions and the trade unions committees have not taken the measures required for helping factories

which do not have cultural and sports installations to use (?other clubs) and sports installations.

The Uzbek SSR Council of Trade Unions Presidium assigned the Bukhara Oblast Council of Trade Unions the task of removing its shortcomings and cooperating with other communal organizations for [words indistinct] and for improving the use of cultural establishments and sports installations.

Comrade Alimova, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Council of Trade Unions, addressed the convocation.

Turkmen Supreme Soviet Discusses People's Soviets

GF271234 Ashkhabad Domestic Service in Russian 1545 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Excerpts] The Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has met and reviewed the resolutions adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium in its 31 March meeting on the tasks of the soviets of people's deputies following the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress which highly evaluated the role of the soviets of people's deputies as well as other leading political events which affect the life of our party and the Soviet people.

As has been pointed out, the documents of the 27th CPSU Congress have clearly outlined the role of the local soviets of people's deputies in realizing the innovative course of the party to accelerate social and economic development in the country, to improve the standard of living of the Soviet people, and to further deepen the democratization of our society.

According to these demands, the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has adopted a resolution in which it obliges the soviets of people's deputies in the republic to discuss, during their sessions in May this year, the tasks of the soviets which stem from the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress; to create an atmosphere of self-criticism, in light of the current demands of the party, in order to analyze [words indistinct] organizational, political, and educational work; and to devise and carry out prospective plans to fulfill the decisions of the party congress.

As clarified by the 27th CPSU Congress that the soviets are responsible for all aspects of life in their territories, it is imperative that they effectively and persistently make use of the authority vested in them to implement and to accelerate economic, social, and cultural development. The implementation of this task must be based on intensification of production, labor productivity, and the lowering of the prices of goods.

The task of the soviets of people's deputies is to introduce the achievements of science and the latest technology, to upgrade the mechanism of control over the fields of national economy, and to consolidate order and discipline.

The soviets must exert more pressure on the accounting organs [words indistinct] for absolute implementation of the allocated tasks; to devote continuous attention to improving medical, trade, cultural, and domestic services for the citizens; and to meet the needs of the citizens for schools, kindergartens, and preschool institutions.

It is of vital importance to upgrade the style, method, and the executive authority of the soviet organs and to raise the level of responsibility of their workers in order to achieve the ultimate goal.

It is important that in all organs and departments of the government an atmosphere hostile to shortcomings and a bureaucratic solution of problems is created in order to promote wide development of labor productivity and self-criticism.

The Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and its departments must concentrate efforts to solve the main problems in order to accelerate economic and social development, to strive to raise the standard of living in the republic, and to enhance the unified national economy complex in the country.

The need has been stressed to use [word indistinct] of the regular reports of the Council of Ministers and the ministries and the departments of the republic before the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and its departments; to raise the level of the leadership of the local soviets of people's deputies; and to ensure natural cooperation among the organs of people's control, trade unions, the Komsomol, and other social organizations. [Word indistinct] the prospective measures adopted by the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 23d Congress of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee will be submitted to the regular session of the Supreme Soviet of the republic for final approval.

Tajik Komsomol First Secretary Transferred, Replaced

LD261528 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 26 Apr

[Text] At a plenum of the Central Committee of Tajikistan's Komsomol in Dushanbe today, the tasks of the republic's Komsomol organization in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress were discussed.

Noting the increased political and labor activity of young people, the plenum participants talked in self-critical terms about the slow restructuring of the primary Komsomol organizations at a time when work is being done in a new way. Sluggish thinking and parasitical and consumerist attitudes can still be observed among a certain section of youth. The plenum examined an organizational question.

In connection with his transfer to party work, Comrade Sultanov was released from his duties as first secretary of the Central Committee of the Tajik Komsomol. Comrade Alimov, who has been working in the apparatus of the All-Union Komsomol, was elected first secretary of the Tajik Komsomol. Comrade Makhkamov, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Tajik Communist Party, took part in the plenum.

Preparations Under Way for Economic Reorganization

LD290427 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1430 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] In the USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply, preparations have begun for transferring associations, enterprises, and organizations of a number of ministries and departments to material and technical supply on the basis of wholesale trade. Starting next year scientific and technical institutes, planning and design organizations of all ministries and departments along with their experimental production plants, the ministry of construction, road, and municipal machine building, and a number of nonproduction ministries, will be given the opportunity to order, without preliminary claims being made and using their own resources at the territorial supply organization, everything needed for the successful fulfilment of their plan tasks. This kind of method will provide for much more flexibility and mobility in production, which are so necessary for accelerating the rate of scientific and technical progress.

'System of Relations' Changed

LD281331 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0715 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, 28 Apr (TASS) — TASS observer Boris Grishchenko writes:

Preparations have begun in the USSR for transferring associations and organizations in a number of ministries and departments to a system of material and technical supply through wholesale trade. The simplicity of placing a current order comes from the fact that only the production task now serves as the basis for obtaining resources, and for the order to be met, the enterprise must have a system of asset organization [organizatsiya sredstv].

This arrangement is in accordance with the 27th CPSU Congress policy of intensifying production and perfecting the economic mechanism, a policy based on increasing the independence of enterprises and organizations with an accompanying rise in their responsibility for good final work results.

Examples from the recent past show that material and technical supply has often been a problem area in the development of production.

Deficiencies in this sphere also were exploited by those who, instead of seeking internal resources, sought to somehow justify their own errors by talking about "objective difficulties."

This departure from rigid funding changes the system of relations in the raw material market. Previously, the USSR Gossnab worked directly with almost 250,000 customers. Naturally, it was not easy to maintain order in such an extensive setup. The new system puts an end to bureaucratic pencil-pushing; instead, enterprises and supply organizations are now engaged in useful and important work. They are preparing a scientific foundation for production and material resource consumption requirements for the 2d year of the 5-year period, and devising guarantees for the unconditional satisfaction of all orders from enterprises and building sites.

Economist Views Need To Restructure Management

PM281030 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 24 Apr 86 p 3

[Article by Doctor of Economic Sciences R. Belousov: "Centralism and Independence. The 27th CPSU Congress on the Reform of the System for Managing the Economy"]

[Text] Moscow — One of the most important tasks set by the 27th party congress is to create an integrated, efficient, and flexible system of economic management, a system which will enable the potential of socialism to materialize more fully. We are not talking about partial improvements, regardless of how important they may be, but about a radical reform, a qualitative restructuring of the entire system for managing the economy. Why is it necessary?

The point is that the current system of management was established a few decades ago and clearly bears the imprint of the historical conditions and tasks of the first 5-year plan periods, the epoch when socialist building was first embarked on. The management forms, methods, and levers which were introduced at that time made it possible to implement industrialization and collectivization, to ensure the material backing for victory in the Great Patriotic War, and to swiftly restore the national economy during the postwar period. They also made it possible to withstand the rigorous economic competition with the capitalist world's leaders and to attain military-strategic parity with the United States. This must not be forgotten; but we must not ignore the fact that these forms and methods of planned management of the economy have exhausted themselves with the passage of time, even though its principles are immutable.

This fact has invariably been taken into account in the party's economic policy, and measures have been implemented to improve economic management. It is sufficient to recall the attempts to find approaches toward a new combination of sectorial and territorial management in the late fifties, the economic reform in the sixties, the quest for new approaches toward planning and incentives in the late seventies, and the economic experiments in the early eighties.

Nevertheless, and despite all their theoretical and practical value, all these measures were, for various reasons, inconsistent and partial. Therefore, they could not have produced the global effect of bringing the entire economic management system in line with the level attained in the development of productive forces. This is why the 27th CPSU Congress set the task: to implement a profound restructuring of the economic machinery, relying on the principle of democratic centralism. The meaning of this restructuring is to orient all management tiers toward intensification of social production and enhancement of labor efficiency and quality.

Here we face a complex theoretical and practical problem concerning the optimal combination of democratic centralism and the self-management of labor collectives. It is evident that the national economy cannot function without one single body determining strategic goals and coordinating the efforts to attain them. Nor can it function, however, without local initiatives in the fulfillment of plan targets. Historical experience shows that

any attempt to combine central and local functions leads to the overloading of some elements and the weakening of others. The art of managing is the skill to delineate accurately, and at the same time to combine organically, the economic and organizational functions of central organs, labor collectives, and local organs of management.

The 27th CPSU Congress set the task, on the one hand, to step up the activeness of centralized leadership in the implementation of the party's economic strategy and, on the other hand, to enhance the role and independence of associations and enterprises and their interest in and responsibility for the attainment of the best end results. The basis for this ought to be provided by true financial autonomy and direct dependence of the level of collectives' incomes on the efficiency of their work.

Such an approach makes it possible to overcome the extremes which are still encountered in the treatment of democratic centralism in the management of the economy. Centralism, with the national economic plan and the state budget as its main forms, is one of socialism's fundamental advantages. It ensures a uniform approach toward the solution of problems affecting the interests of the whole people, translates into practice the relations of socialist ownership, and makes it possible to achieve comprehensive and coordinated development of sectors and regions in the country. Thus it counters the centrifugal forces of departmentalism and parochialism. Centralized control of the economy in the interests of the people, with the working people's participation, and subject to monitoring by the working people, makes it possible to bring into action some very weighty sources of economic growth. This is where centralism couples with democracy, and the new tasks objectively demand that this "coupling" becomes even tighter.

In practical terms this means that central economic departments and sectorial ministries must stop taking upon themselves the solution of numerous specific questions and must shed their operational activity. Questions concerning the entire economy and its sectors will remain within their powers, but henceforth their solutions must be sounder and better substantiated.

At the same time, the task has been set to extend the powers of collectives and local organs. For this purpose, they will be provided not only with rights but also with the necessary resources. Labor collectives must earn funds for the retooling of production, for salary increases, for housing construction, and for the solution of other social problems. Until recently, financial autonomy was targeted on the recoupment of current expenditure, in other words on ensuring simple reproduction; henceforth, the technical and social development of enterprises and associations must be self-financed. This means that their collectives become responsible for expanded reproduction.

Another key idea of the management reform is the transition to economic methods at all levels of the national economy. We are talking about restrictions on peremptorily-volitional decisions which, in practical terms, often turn into voluntarism and inflict considerable material and moral damage. Now, when management organs make decisions, they must consider thoroughly the interests of labor collectives and regions, with priority being given to the interests of the whole people.

The statement that man is the main productive force is not just empty words. One can recall that one of the reasons behind the decline of economic growth rate in the late seventies and early eighties was the fact that this period saw a weakening of the incentives for the development of the individual and that the machinery which encouraged people to work with total dedication according to their abilities was beginning to wear out and age. Leveling, in terms of labor remuneration for individual workers and of incentives for collectives, became widespread within the system of both material and moral incentives. It became customary to compensate for the losses of laggard enterprises, ministries, and regions at the expense of those which operated efficiently. This undermined financial autonomy, gave rise to parasitism, and dampened any enthusiasm for innovation and progressiveness.

The restructuring of the economic machinery presupposes the rejection of the practice of subjective distribution of incomes. When an absolute profit ceiling is set for an enterprise in advance and, in fact, regardless of end results, while any above-plan income treated as "free" surplus is transferred to the budget, the collective naturally loses all interest in seeking reserves to effect savings and increase profits. A gradual transition from financial apportionment to the taxation principle is envisaged under the new economic management conditions. Either absolute figures for mandatory payments into the budget or for deductions payable to higher-ranking organizations, or firm normatives for the proportional distribution of planned and above-plan profits will be set for enterprises in advance and for a long-term period. Collectives acquire a real interest in increasing swiftly and steadily their net income — the source of the funds for development, material incentives, social and cultural measures, and housing construction.

The application of economic methods of management is impossible without stepping up the role of goods-money relations. It is these relations that must provide a flexible coupling between production, distribution, and consumption. The most important advantage of these relations is the fact that the machinery of their operation forces every producer to boost quality and reduce expenditure, which means seeking out and swiftly implementing the achievements of science and technology, advanced experience, and innovation. The idea is simple enough: Prices are used to impose on enterprises a rigorous normative for socially necessary expenditure. If their individual costs are below this normative, they earn additional profits. If they are above it, nobody introduces any amendments, losses are not made good, and they are forced to reorganize themselves.

Another important avenue of the reform of the economic machinery is the organization of the wholesale trade in means of production. At present the turnover stage is virtually nonexistent in the process of their reproduction. The consequences are highly lamentable: Enterprises are forced to create larger reserves of material values; funds turnover is slowing down; and material and technical supplies suffer from chronic disruptions. The system of advance requisitions for materials and components hinders the introduction of new articles and extends the time taken for their assimilation.

The planned reform of management envisages that it will acquire

a modern organizational structure taking into account the trends toward concentration, specialization, and production sharing. All collective labor needs an organization which ensures order and coordination in actions and gives these actions a certain direction and purposefulness. Now we are faced with the need to seek new and more efficient structures of coupling science and production, integrating related production processes, and creating territorial-production and intersectorial associations. Industry is basically switching to the two-tier system of management and the basic tiers -- enterprises and associations — are being strengthened. This restructuring is not a goal in itself. Its purpose is to ensure improved quality of management and, as a result, attain high end results from the nationwide labor cooperation.

But perhaps the main avenue of the restructuring of management is its comprehensive democratization. Working people in our country have always participated in the solution of state and economic questions but mainly through their representatives on soviet, party, and trade union organs. The new approach involves the awakening of mass initiative and creativeness — the driving force which is capable of practically implementing the planned qualitative restructuring of management. It is for these purposes that labor collectives have been given the right to solve directly a broad range of questions concerning production and social development.

The need for this is evident. We all are the joint owners of the means of production. The relations of socialist ownership not only give each one of us rights but also impose a great responsibility. The essence of this responsibility is simple: Whether you want it or not, whether you understand it or not, if you are passive in management, if you allow yourself and others a couldn't-careless and indifferent attitude toward the people's wealth, you must bear both material and moral responsibility for this.

In order to accelerate economic growth, it is necessary to set all reserves in motion. They do exist; and if everyone were to look around more carefully, they will be found. The only thing that is needed is not to tolerate losses or a slack attitude toward the work at hand. This is the main condition for efficient economic management, and without it, it is impossible to achieve a better life for each and every one.

Railway Workers Adopt New Work, Salary System

LD241710 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0815 GMT on 23 April carries a 5-minute report by special correspondents in Minsk Aleksey Zhuk and Petr Makritskiy on new systems being adopted by Belorussian railway workers. One of the correspondents explains that the Belorussian railway workers have gone over to a new system of payment by the job and doubling up of duties. In a short period of time about 12,000 workers have been freed for work in other industries.

Next, the correspondents interview Andrey Grigoryevich Andreyev, head of the Belorussian railways who explains that a 10-percent increase is expected in the volume of rail traffic over the next 5-year period. In another interview Vladimir Timofeyevich Charykov, chief of the Labor, Wages, and Industrial Safety Administration at the USSR Ministry of Railways, says that the experiment is to be implemented at a number of other railways: Oktyabrskyay, Pribaltiyskaya, Lvov, Odessa, Moldavia, Yuzhnaya, Severokavkazskaya, Alma Ata, Central Asia, and the Minsk underground. Charykov says that over 30,000 workers have been freed in the first quarter of this year. In 1986 alone, through a reduction of 45,000 workers involved in rail transportation on these lines, labor productivity over the network as a whole will rise by (?1.7) percent. Charykov considers that the introduction of this experiment will allow labor productivity on the railways to be increased by 17-20 percent by the end of the current 5-year plan, and will free over 200,000 workers for the national economy.

Briefs

Tyumen Oil Deposit Opened — Industrial exploitation of the Orekhovo-Yermakovskoye deposit has been started by Yuganskneftegaz. Tyumen oilmen have started exploitation of a new oil deposit on the left bank of the Ob. Already this year it is planned to recover more than 300,000 tons of hydrocarbons from the deposit. [Text] [*Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1250 GMT 28 Apr 86 LD*]

Machine Tools Computer — The first section of computer-controlled machine tools is being established at the main enterprise of the Murmansk Sudoves association. These are fourth-generation machine tools. It will be possible to make both small and large components on them. The machine tools can be switched quickly from one program to another. [Summary] [*Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2304 GMT 7 Apr 86 LD*]

Pierre Cardin Fashions — Moscow April 8 TASS — The first license agreement between the Pierre Cardin firm and the Soviet Union was signed today here at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade. Under the agreement, the firm will design high-fashion models of men's and women's clothes and hand over forms and records required for their production in the USSR with the use of Soviet-made materials. Within five years after the signing of the agreement, the Pierre Cardin firm will be handing over annually to the Soviet side two collections of clothes, 46 models each, for autumn-winter and spring-summer seasons. The manufacture of ready-to-wear garments will be started at enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Light Industry. The agreement was signed by Pierre Cardin and Valeriy Ignatyev, general director of the foreign trade associaiton "Licensintorg". [Text] [*Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 8 Apr 86 LD*]

Spring Sowing Progress Throughout Nation Reviewed

PM251144 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 1

[O. Pavlov "Agricultural Review": "Springtime Reckoning"]

[Text] The week that has passed brought heavy rainfall over a large part of the country. Temperatures in Estonia and Latvia dropped so low that the ground was temporarily covered with snow. Yet farms in 12 union republics engaged in field work. It is true that sowing was not being done everywhere, but the soil was being prepared and fertilizers were being applied. Spring has actually, one way or another, come upon us earlier than in previous years, but the decision of how, when, and what should be done in the fields is entirely in the crop farmer's hands.

It has to be noted that work proceeds at a good pace provided that weather conditions permit it. Rostov Oblast machine operators, for example, have organized their work well under complex conditions. They have had to resow winter crops over quite a large area and, in addition to that, they have a large area allocated to spring crops — almost 2.6 million hectares. This includes an area of about 1 million hectares for grain and pulse crops. The oblast's farms have now sown more grain crops than in any other territory of the RSFSR. But only time will tell what the harvest yields will be. It is not always possible to make good all the damage suffered by the winter crop fields.

Unfortunately, this is not the first year that extensive resowing work has to be done in Belgorod, Voronezh, and Kursk Oblasts. This fact indicates that the standards of winter crop and perennial grass cultivation there need to be seriously examined. Nor is this the first year that we speak of poor harvest yields from grain crops in Rostov, Voronezh, and several other oblasts, which are by no means suffering from the worst natural and climatic conditions. It must be noted that considerable potential is concentrated there within agricultural science establishments. It is impossible to claim that the corps of specialists at rayon level is understaffed or that agronomists on farms are inadequately trained. Moreover, resources and efforts have been invested in the introduction of industrial technologies in winter crop fields. Yet, recently we have observed with alarm the development of the situation in these oblasts, which determine the level of the country's grain production.

Good news has started arriving now. Rain has come to the southern Ukraine following the earlier heatwave. But winter crops have been damaged even there. Of course, the southern region has a chance to make good the damage by means of crops like corn. All this, however, involves additional expenditure of labor and funds.

There is, of course, no need to paint an entirely black picture. Modern crop farmers, particularly those who have mastered the intensive technologies, are capable of managing harvest yields even under complex weather conditions. It was noted at the 27th party congress that the assimilation of intensive technologies will make it possible, in 1985 alone, to reap an additional 16 million metric tons of grains and a significant quantity of other produce.

The potential of new technological solutions in crop farming is extremely high. It is only necessary to make full use of them, to not simplify the solutions, and to rigorously observe all agrotechnical regulations and technological discipline. It is also necessary to constantly augment one's knowledge.

A certain amount of conservatism is, unfortunately, still extant in agronomical circles. On the one hand, this is understandable: Unchecked and at times, even nonsensical innovations were forced on agronomists too persistently and clumsily in the past. The cause suffered, the soil suffered, and people lost their taste for creative work. Now, however, is the time to display independence, to shoulder responsibility for bold decisions, and to wage an active struggle for innovations. This includes technology. Alas, not everything is running smoothly. For example, Kurgan Oblast's agro-industrial committee and scientists recently verified thoroughly the standard of their agronomists' knowledge of industrial technology, bearing in mind that these agronomists had undergone a far from brief training. One-third of specialists were graded as "failed." This is why harvest yields in the oblast are patchy and why there are so many shortcomings in the fields.

...Meanwhile, the front of field work is expanding. Lithuania, Belorussia, Orel, Ryazan, Tula, Vladimir, the Volga Region, Uralsk Oblast, the Far East — this is roughly the front line of springtime sowing. Siberia and north Kazakhstan have yet to embark on it. This is understandable. The best time still lies ahead. Now, it is necessary to prepare the equipment and implements as best as possible, and here and there it is still possible to improve the quality of the seeds.

Work has begun in the vegetable plantations in the south. North Osetia's farms have completed the sowing. Seeds of new, regionalized varieties of radishes, carrots, green peas, sweet peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes, and edible greens have been sown in well-tilled, fertilized soil. Introducing industrial technologies in the cultivation of vegetable crops, the farms plan to open the vegetable deliveries season somewhat earlier than usual.

The work that has to be done in the fields increases day by day. It is, however, important that springtime reckoning should not be just a matter of days or hectares, but should be primarily aimed at high end results, which would set the tone for 5-year plan period.

Progress in Current Agricultural Work Evaluated

PM281535 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 86 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Arable Farmers out in the Fields"]

[Excerpt] The extensive use of advanced methods of work organization is a characteristic sign of this spring. The scale on which intensive techniques are being applied in arable farming has increased in the country as a whole. This work requires a high level of skill and responsibility. A formal attitude to advanced methods, just going through the motions, cannot be allowed. It must be ensured that these techniques universally produce a handsome increase in yields and repay the outlay with interest. Specialists of farms and agro-industrial enterprises must help

arable farmers fully master the innovations and introduce zonal soil-conservation arable farming systems, since the accelerated development of crop cultivation is to be achieved to a large extent on that basis.

The tasks facing arable farmers are not easy, they demand great exertion of effort. In recent years arable farming yields have stood still in some places and there has been no increase in the crops grown. This particularly concerns many farms in Voronezh, Vladimir, and Ural oblasts. A radical improvement in the state of affairs in crop cultivation is needed if a dramatic turnaround is to be achieved. It is specially necessary to execute every agrotechnical method to a high standard and to sow high-quality seed on well-prepared soil at the best time. Party organs and kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders must inculcate in people intolerance toward shortcomings and routine and a desire to achieve the highest possible results with the least expenditure of labor and resources.

Special attention must be paid to reclaimed land. Care must be taken to ensure that irrigation and drainage systems are well prepared for the season. But this has not been considered everywhere. In Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, for example, large-scale sowing of cotton has begun, but not all the hydroengineering systems have been repaired yet. Collector and drainage lines are sometimes inoperative. Some farms are making poor use of scientifically based crop rotation. Land reclamation workers and farmers must increase the yields on improved land more quickly and seek to obtain the planned harvests. A careful attitude to water and other irrigated land resources counts for a lot here.

Spring field work is proceeding best of all where people are making skillful use of equipment. Pacesetters have long since fixed their equipment and checked it down to the last detail. Motor vehicles have been handed over to experienced machine operators working according to the collective contract method. Schedules have been drawn up, routes worked out, and care taken to ensure that units are efficiently maintained. Nevertheless, sowing work caught engineering service workers unawares in a number of places. A considerable number of tractors were still not ready for use on farms in Kostroma and Perm Oblasts and the Udmurt ASSR at the beginning of April. There are many Kirovets tractors in disrepair in the Kazakhstan virgin lands. There are frequent interruptions in the supply of spare parts to repair workers. For example, a number of farms in Georgia lack tractor parts, sprayers, and other mechanisms. Clearly, people have been paying less attention to current work in some places. The situation must be put right as quickly as possible.

During sowing time the place for specialists belonging to rayon agro-industrial associations and agro-industrial committees is in the fields and on the farms. It is important that rural workers reorganize themselves to work in the new way and develop a taste for creativity from the very outset of the harvest campaign. What management bodies must do now is not command or dictate the methods of sowing or soil cultivation but help to get things going and help the assimilation of progressive labor organization procedures and methods, financial autonomy, and the contract system. There is no place for red tape, speechifying, or an armchair style. During sowing, specialists must continue assimilating the new economic management mechanism and revealing its potential in practice.

The spring harvesting season has also reached the non-Chernozem Zone. It is a region of large potential. Substantial investments were made in the region's agro-industrial complex in the last two 5-year plans. However, they are still not yielding the required return. Many farms have low harvests. Reclaimed fields are making a poor return on investment. The task facing rural workers and their agro-industrial partners is to achieve a breakthrough and bring the production potential created there fully into operation. Life demands that grain and vegetable growing be developed more energetically and that more feed be procured for livestock. It is also necessary to pay increased attention to the non-Chernozem Zone's traditional sector — flax growing. The position there is not gratifying either. Sowing time is approaching, but there is a lack of long-stemmed flax seed in Kalinin and Pskov oblasts. No concern was shown to purchase it in good time.

Field Preparation in Non-Chernozem Zone Reported

PM251540 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Apr 86
First Edition p 1

[V. Yakovlev "Agricultural Review": "The Wide-Open Spaces of the Non-Chernozem Zone"]

[Text] The USSR Central Statistical Administration reports that by 21 April spring crops had been sown on 26.2 million hectares in the country. Grain and pulse crops (excluding corn) accounted for 13.1 million of them. Cotton growers and workers on beet plantations are increasing the scale of their operations: In the past week they have sown hundreds of thousands of hectares. The vegetable growers in the southernmost farms have different preoccupations: They are already tending the crops.

The busy period has also arrived for the farmers in Russia's non-Chernozem Zone. As is customary, the spring work program was opened by the detachments whose job it is to top-dress the winter crops and perennial grasses. This work is currently being done all over the region.

There is a solicitous attitude toward the fields on many farms in Tula Oblast. In the last 5-year plan they considerably increased production and purchases of grain. The farmers are placing the emphasis on intensive techniques: They provide an increase of nine and more quintals of grain per hectare compared with conventional techniques.

But stagnation in the grain sector has not yet been overcome in most rayons. Harvests are poor and the return on expenditure is poor. The state has allocated a large amount of mineral fertilizer to the non-Chernozem farms. It should provide a large quantity of extra products. But because of mismanagement and violation of agricultural techniques the opposite often happens. For example, kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Bryansk, Vladimir, and Ryazan Oblasts have increased the doses of mineral fertilizers for grain crops. But instead of increasing, yields have fallen. This was due to the excessive acidity of some fields and the careless use of the fertilizers.

In a number of places the accelerated development of the grain sector is being hampered by stagnation and by production leaders who are clinging to their grandfathers' agricultural methods. The advantages of intensive techniques in grain farming are clear for all to see. But they are slow to take root. Some people report that they are placing land under intensive cultivation, but they then use the old methods on it. Technological discipline is often violated on such fields in Kostroma and Yaroslavl Oblasts. The result is, of course, that a large quantity of products is lost. Last fall kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the Mordovian and Mari ASSR's failed to meet targets for sowing winter crops by intensive techniques.

The kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the non-Chernozem Zone possess a mighty technical potential. They have over 500,000 tractors alone. A vast pool of other machinery has been created. According to specialists, spring field work can be carried out at the very best times using that kind of equipment. But not everyone is managing to. Tardy preparation of units is largely to blame. At a time when speed is of the essence, some people are still being let down by "rear services." At the beginning of April a large number of tractors werestill awaiting repairs at workshops in Vologda, Ivanovo, Kirov, and some other oblasts. In Komi ASSR 14 percent of the grain drills were awaiting repairs.

There are large areas of new land in the non-Chernozem Zone. It can provide good harvests. But on many kolkhozes and sovkhozes drained land is giving a meager return. It is important now for farmers and reclamation organization personnel to make sure the improved land is in good order.

But not all people are conscientiously preparing the new arable land for the growing season. The reclamation workers of Mobile Mechanized Column-11 turned over to the "Smychka" Kolkhoz in Pskov Oblast around 700 hectares that had not been properly prepared. Consequently, the large farm, which lies near the village of Besedino, is using only one-half of its land. The drains are already partially blocked with mud, although it is less than two years since the system was introduced. The grass sown last year has rotted. The defects were there for all to see. But kolkhoz chairman V. Lukashevich and the other personnel who agreed to accept the land behaved in an unprincipled way and turned a blind eye to the poor-quality drainage and soil preparation. The reclamation workers were told to repair the damage. Although the new sowing season is just around the corner, the people responsible for the unfinished work have not put in an appearance.

Mass sowing is about to begin in the wide-open spaces of the non-Chernozem Zone. The region's farmers are joining the rest of the country on the path of acceleration.

Sowing Campaign Under Way; Good Conditions Reported

LD241359 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1500 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] The sowing campaign is under way in all union republics except Estonia. According to data we received today from the USSR Central Statistical Administration, by the beginning of the week spring crops had been sown on over 26 million hectares. Half of this area was taken up by grain crops. Widespread sowing is going ahead now along the Volga. In the last few days, sowing began in Penza and Ulyanovsk Oblasts. Farms of the south of the non-Chernozem Zone are sowing spring crops. In the last few days there was precipitation over a significant territory of the country which has replenished stores of moisture. This creates good conditions for the young shoots. In the Ukraine and North Caucasus, the sowing of millet, buckwheat, and rice has begun. Grain corn, sunflower, and sugar beet crops have already been sown over a significant area. These days the farms of the southernmost regions are beginning to sow soya, a crop that requires warmth. In the republics of Central Asia, cotton sowing is nearing completion. Feed crops have now been sown over a significantly greater area than in previous years in the country.

'Progress-26' Docks With 'Mir'-'Soyuz T-15'

LD262235 Moscow TASS in English 2230 GMT 26 Apr 86

[TASS announcement]

[Text] [no dateline as received] — The *Progress-26* spacecraft docked with the manned orbital complex *Mir — Soyuz T-15* at 01.26, Moscow time, on April 27, 1986 [2126 GMT 26 April].

The mutual search, rendezvous, tethering and docking were carried out by means of the onboard automatic equipment of the spaceships. The processes were monitored by the mission control centre in cooperation with the ground command instrumentation complex as well as by cosmonauts Kizim and Solovev. The cargo spacecraft docked with the station on the side of the service compartment.

The *Progress-26* spacecraft delivered fuel for the joint propulsion unit, food, water, complementary equipment and apparatus for the *Mir* station, as well as mail.

According to telemetric data and crew reports, the onboard systems of the manned complex *Mir — Soyuz T-15 — Progress-26* are functioning normally. The state of Leonid Kizim's and Vladimir Solovyev's health is good, and they are feeling well.

[Signed] TASS, April 27.

Crew Unloading 'Progress-26'

LD280847 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0730 GMT 28 Apr 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The flight of the *Mir — Soyuz T-15 — Progress-26* orbital station is continuing. Today, Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyev will basically be involved with the unloading of the transportation vessel. The crew will carry out a 2-hour physical training session, and will carry out geophysical experiments in line with the program for the study of the environment. According to reports from the orbit and according to telemetric data, the flight is proceeding normally. The state of health and the sense of well-being of both cosmonauts is good.

Technical Problems Discussed

LD272305 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 27 Apr 86

[Summary] Cosmonauts Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyev have been working in orbit for over 2 months. Today they started to unload the latest *Progress-26* cargo craft that is moored at the *Mir* station. Our correspondent Petr Pelekhov talked to the cosmonauts during one communications session.

[Begin recording] [Pelekhov] Are you happy with the station, are there any problems?

[Cosmonaut] On the whole we are satisfied with the station, but problems and failures also crop up, as is invariably the case with complex technology. However we get over them. For example, we had a big problem with the communications system. We could not adjust it for a long time, but now, as you see, we are talking without major interruptions so this problem has been solved as well.

Transferring additional equipment to the station and checking the operating condition of the systems will end the first stage of our work at the station. It is pleasing to think we will have completed everything in the flight plan for that period. This work has been interesting and varied.

[Pelekhov] Yesterday you mentioned some difficulties in connection with Africa, you did not get a good view of something over there...

[Cosmonaut] We worked yesterday on behalf of geophysicists who want to obtain data about the distance at which a cosmonaut can discriminate colors, but in the Southern Hemisphere, in Africa, the color spectrum of their vegetation has already become limited, so to speak...and I told earth that they should pick regions for observation where the color spectrum is wider and better so that we can fulfill all tasks in the interests of geophysics.

Progress of 'Astron,' 'Vega' Projects Updated

LD251545 Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 25 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 25 TASS — The astrophysical station *Astron* which was put into a high elliptic orbit of an artificial earth satellite on March 23, 1983, has been in operation for the fourth year now.

In the course of the flight, nearly 500 radio-communication sessions were held. In the course of these sessions, according to the joint programmes of scientists of the USSR, the GDR, France and Italy, diverse research of stars, galaxies, nebulae and Halley's Comet was carried out. A number of important scientific results have been achieved by ultraviolet and X-ray telescopes installed in the *Astron* station. Thus an unusually high content of superheavy elements was found in the atmospheres of some stars, a new type of star flares has been discovered, earlier unknown peculiarities of ultraviolet radiation of active galaxies have been detected, the character of the change in the velocity of outflow of matter from very hot stars has been determined.

The information on Halley's Comet received from the *Astron* station complements the measurement data from the automatic interplanetary stations *Vega-1* and *Vega-2*. According to estimates of experts, in one passage near the sun, the Halley's Comet loses nearly 400 million tons of substance from its nucleus.

Even after completion of the studies of the comet the Vega stations continue measuring the characteristics and properties of the inter-planetary environment. At present *Vega-1* is at a distance of 217 million kilometres and *Vega-2* — 198 million kilometres.

According to the data of telemetric measurements, the onboard systems and scientific instruments of the automatic stations *Vega-1*, *Vega-2* and *Astron* are functioning normally.